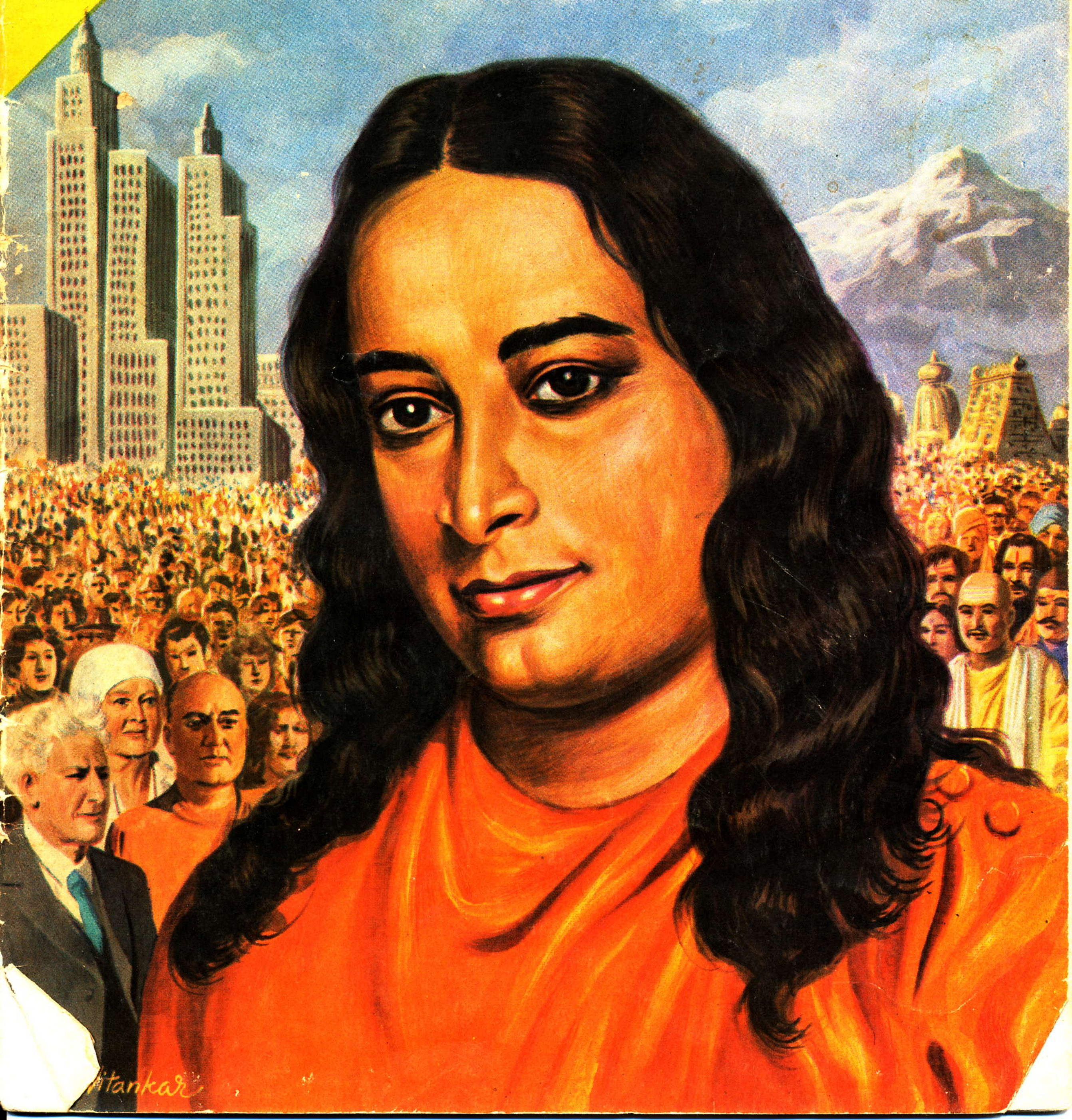
AMAR CHARITRA KATHA

Rs. 3.00

PARAMAHANSA YOGANANDA

A SAINT FOR EAST AND WEST



Mukunda Lal Ghosh was born in Gorakhpur on January 5, 1893. Great saints predicted that his life would be extraordinary. Even as a little boy, Mukunda had a religious bent of mind. At seventeen, he met his guru, Swami Sri Yukteswar Giri, through whose guidance Mukunda attained divine enlightenment. Sri Yukteswar gave him the sannyas name, Yogananda, and the title, Paramahansa.

Although Yoganandaji wanted to live as a hermit, he submitted to the desire expressed by his Guru and his Param-paramguru, Mahavatar Babaji, that he should spread all over the world the ancient knowledge of Kriya Yoga: a spiritual science for realizing God and making Him a practical part of one's life. To accomplish his mission, Yoganandaji founded in 1917 the Yogoda Satsanga Society of India. Later, in 1920, he established in America an international society called Self-Realization Fellowship.

Yoganandaji's sublime love of God inspired reciprocal love in the hearts of others; he came to be known as Premavatar: an incarnation of divine love. He taught that all men can know God personally, and that this is the only lasting cure for human suffering. As one of India's truly great spiritual masters, he did pioneering work abroad to establish a living link between East and West, and to demonstrate how vital it is for man to unite every action to the love and wisdom of God.

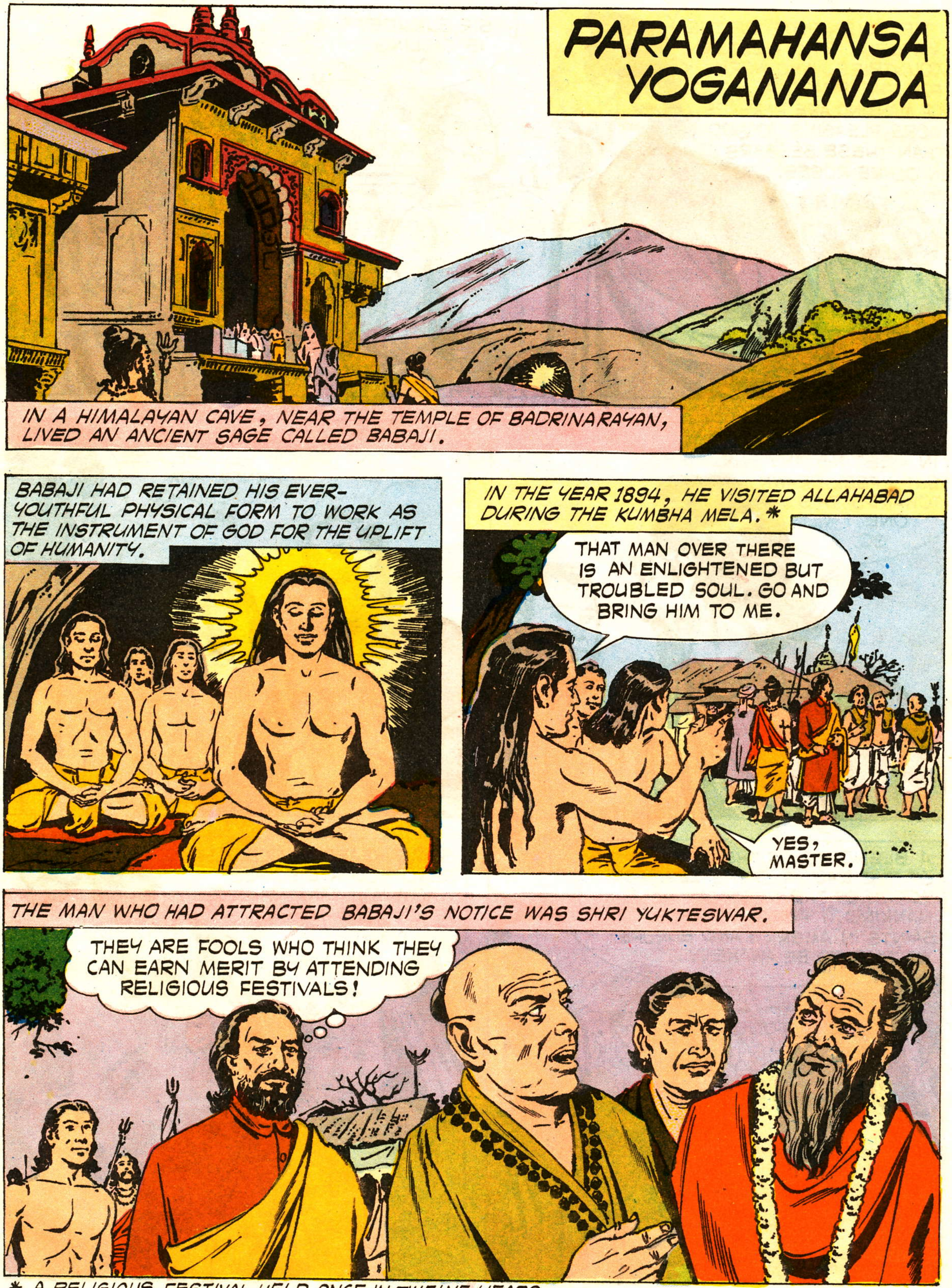
India paid formal tribute to her great son on the 25th anniversary of his Mahasamadhi by issuing a commemorative postage stamp.

This Amar Charitra Katha is based on Paramahansa Yogananda's *Autobiography of a Yogi,* which is acclaimed all over the world as a classic in Yogic literature.

Script approved by the International Publications Council of Self-Realization Fellowship/Yogoda Satsanga Society of India.

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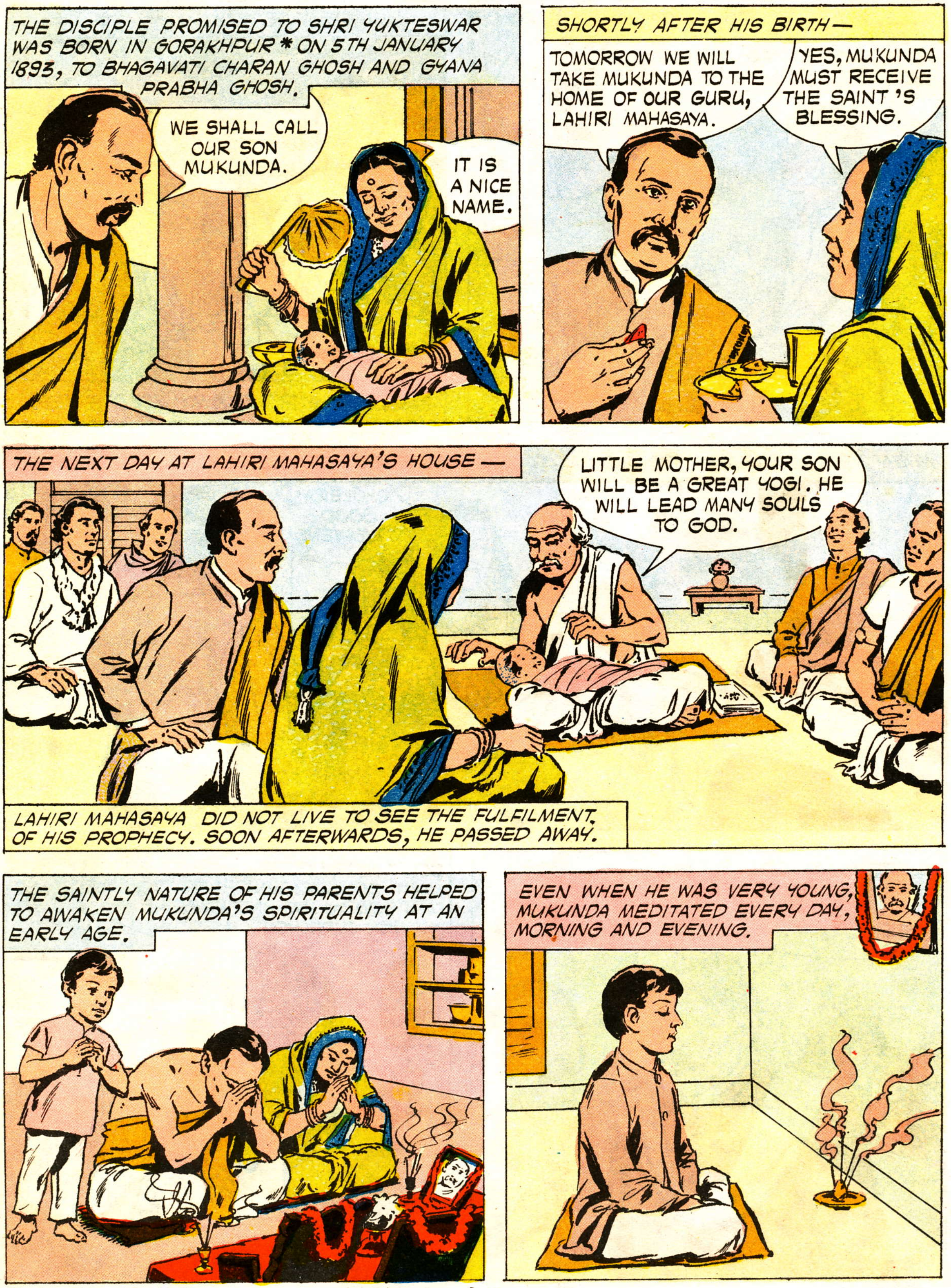
Editor: Anant Pai **Artworks: Souren Roy**



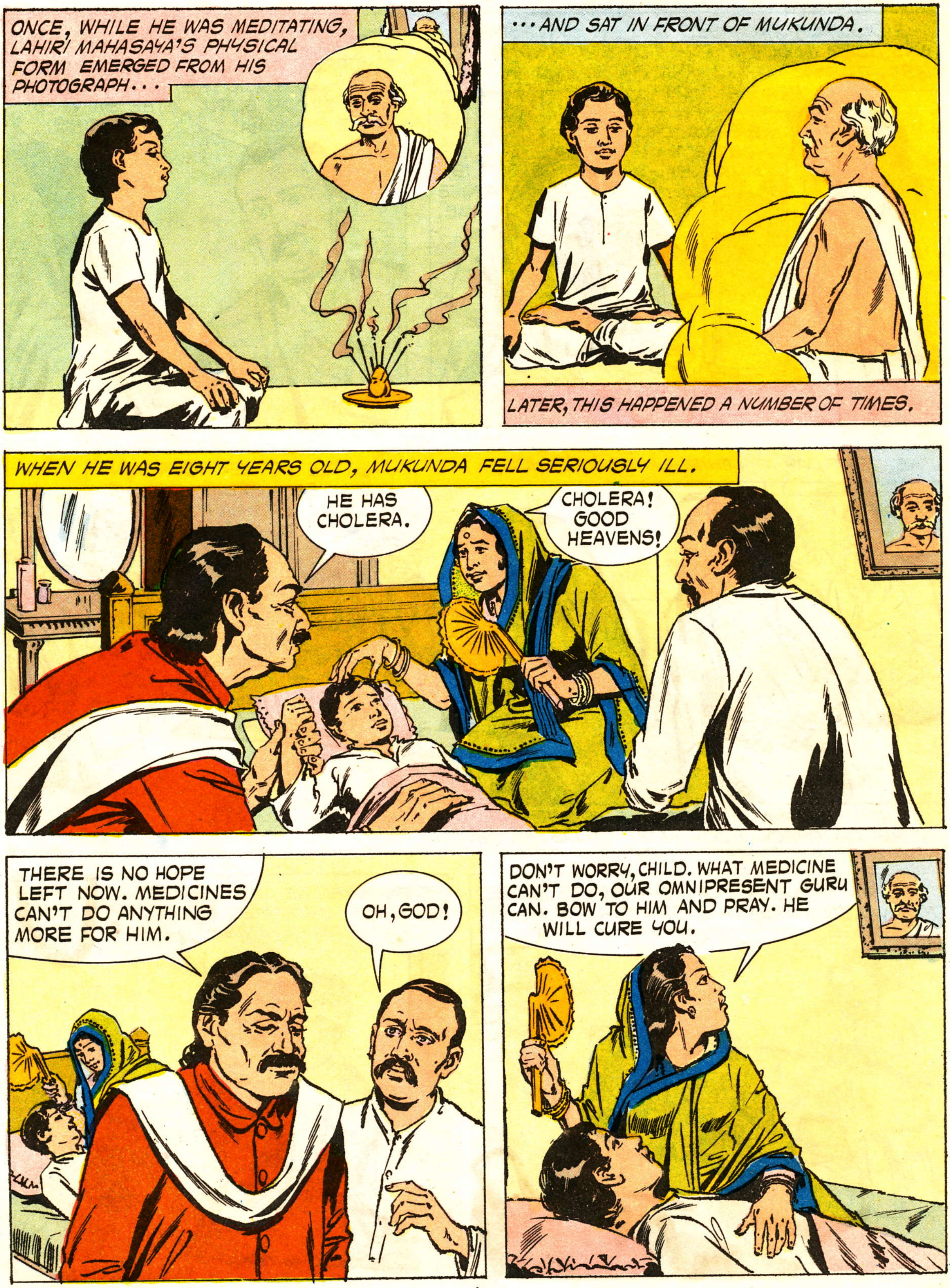
* A RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL HELD ONCE IN TWELVE YEARS

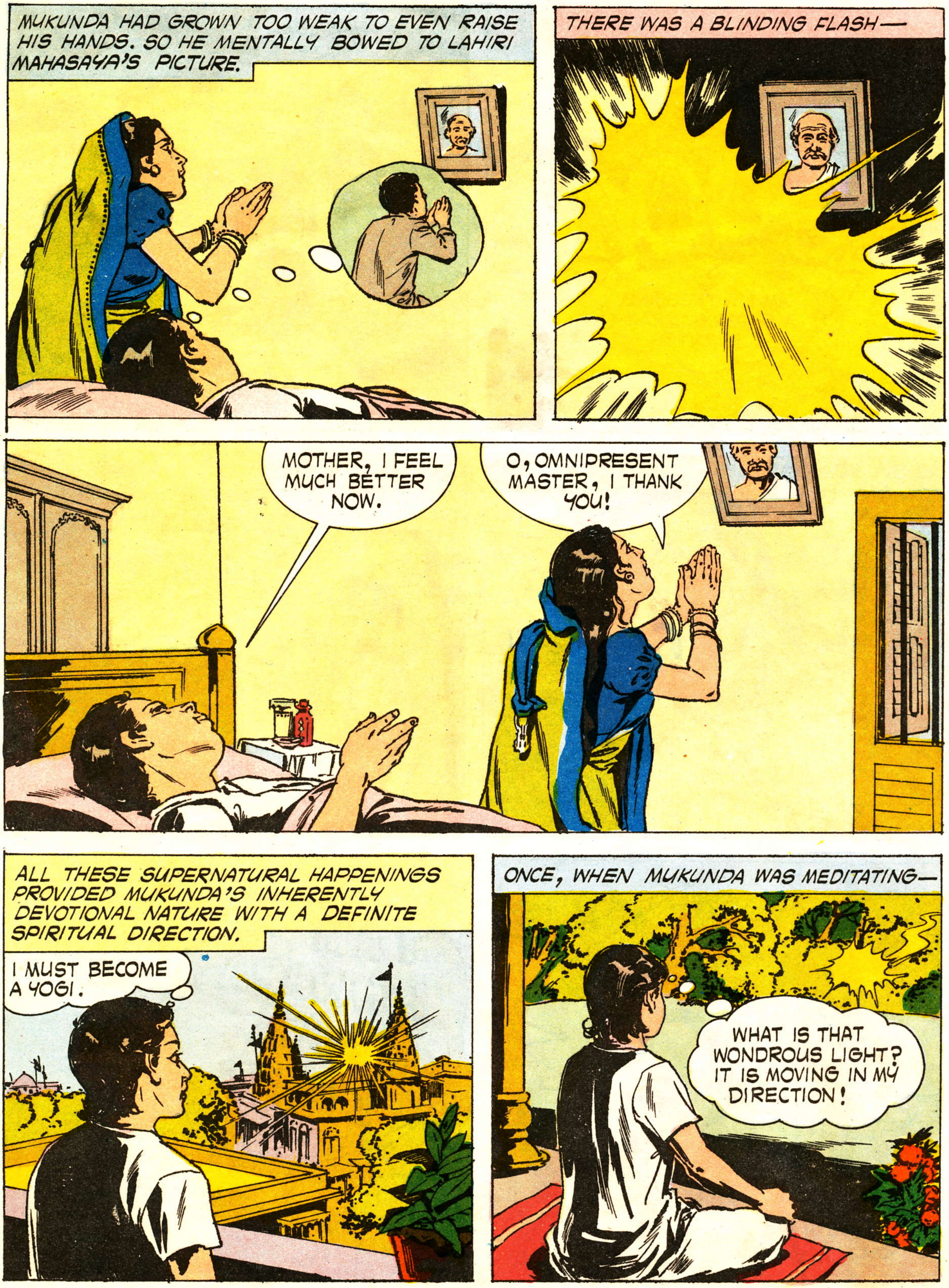

THE SCIENTISTS OF THE MATERIALISTIC WESTERN COUNTRIES, WHO WORK FOR THE PRACTICAL GOOD OF MANKIND ARE PERHAPS MORE PLEASING TO GOD THAN THESE BEGGARS IN OCHRE ROBES.
SIR, GURUDEV* IS CALLING YOU.
I AM NOT INTERESTED IN MEETING ANY GURU. BUT I FEEL DRAWN TOWARDS THIS ONE. I WILL GO.
SALUTATIONS, MASTER!
I HAVE SUMMONED YOU HERE BECAUSE I KNOW HOW TROUBLED YOU ARE.
A BLENDING OF THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE EAST AND THE ZEAL FOR ACTION OF THE WEST CAN HELP MANKIND. I PERCEIVE POTENTIAL SAINTS IN AMERICA AND EUROPE WAITING TO BE AWAKENED.
SOME YEARS HENCE, I SHALL SEND YOU A DISCIPLE WHOM YOU CAN TRAIN TO TEACH YOGA IN THE WEST.

* TEACHER



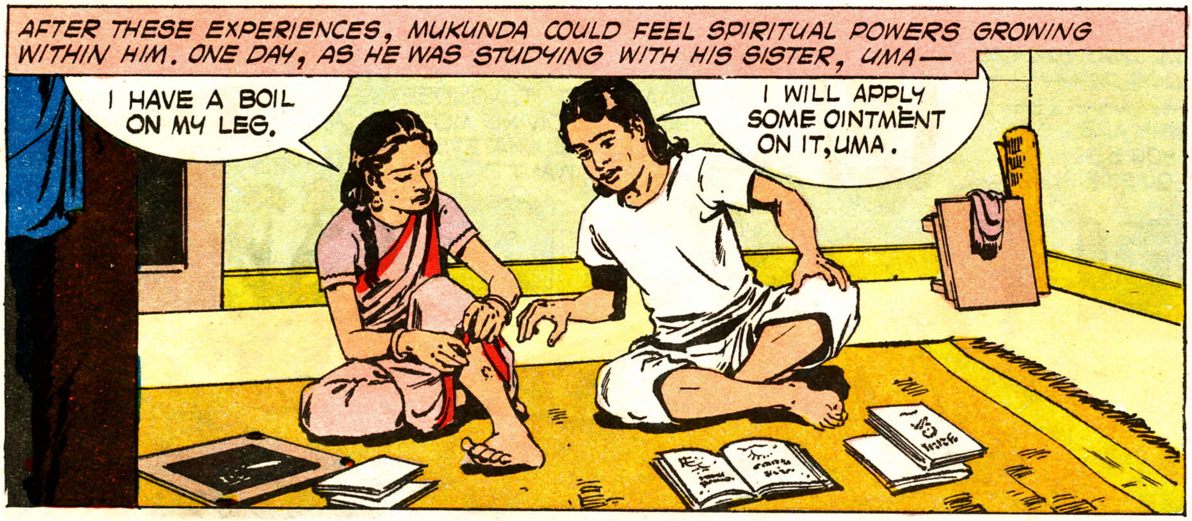
* IN EASTERN U.P.

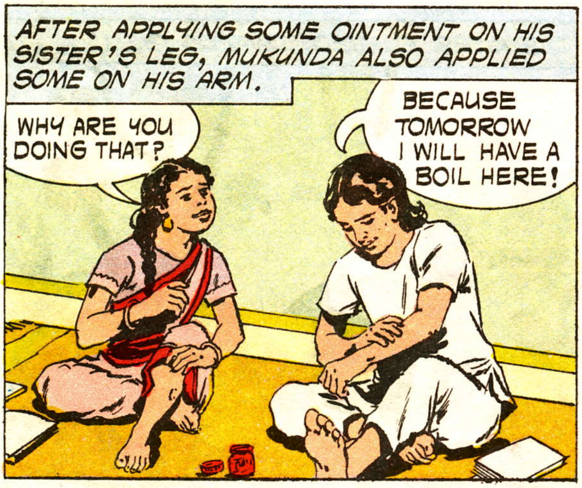

ONCE, WHILE HE WAS MEDITATING, LAHIRI MAHASAYA'S PHYSICAL FORM EMERGED FROM HIS PHOTOGRAPH...
...AND SAT IN FRONT OF MUKUNDA.
LATER, THIS HAPPENED A NUMBER OF TIMES.
WHEN HE WAS EIGHT YEARS OLD, MUKUNDA FELL SERIOUSLY ILL.
HE HAS CHOLERA.
CHOLERA! GOOD HEAVENS!
THERE IS NO HOPE LEFT NOW. MEDICINES CAN'T DO ANYTHING MORE FOR HIM.
OH, GOD!
DON'T WORRY, CHILD. WHAT MEDICINE CAN'T DO, OUR OMNIPRESENT GURU CAN. BOW TO HIM AND PRAY. HE WILL CURE YOU.


MUKUNDA HAD GROWN TOO WEAK TO EVEN RAISE HIS HANDS. SO HE MENTALLY BOWED TO LAHIRI MAHASAYA'S PICTURE.
THERE WAS A BLINDING FLASH—
MOTHER, I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW.
O, OMNIPRESENT MASTER, I THANK YOU!
ALL THESE SUPERNATURAL HAPPENINGS PROVIDED MUKUNDA'S INHERENTLY DEVOTIONAL NATURE WITH A DEFINITE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION.
I MUST BECOME A YOGI.
ONCE, WHEN MUKUNDA WAS MEDITATING—
WHAT IS THAT WONDROUS LIGHT? IT IS MOVING IN MY DIRECTION!

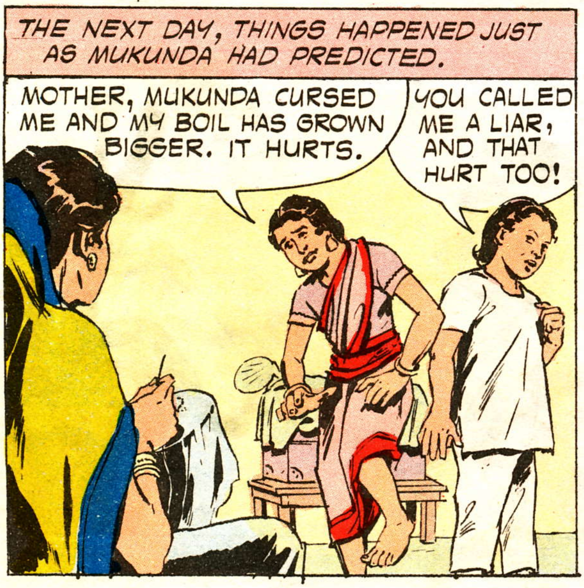


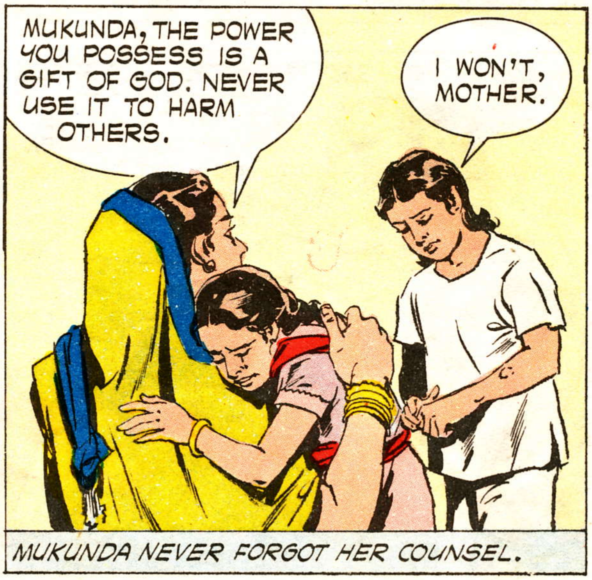
THE LIGHT STARTED TAKING VAGUE, BUT DISCERNIBLE SHAPES.
AM I WITNESSING A SUPERNATURAL EVENT?
WHO ARE YOU?
WE ARE HIMALAYAN YOGIS.
I LONG TO GO TO THE HIMALAYAS AND BE LIKE YOU!
AT THIS JUNCTURE, THE VISION OF THE HIMALAYAN YOGIS DISAPPEARED AND A SILVERY BEAM OF LIGHT APPEARED.
THIS LIGHT FILLS ME WITH GREAT PEACE. I WONDER WHAT IT IS?
I AM ISHWARA, I AM LIGHT.
I WANT TO BE ONE WITH YOU.

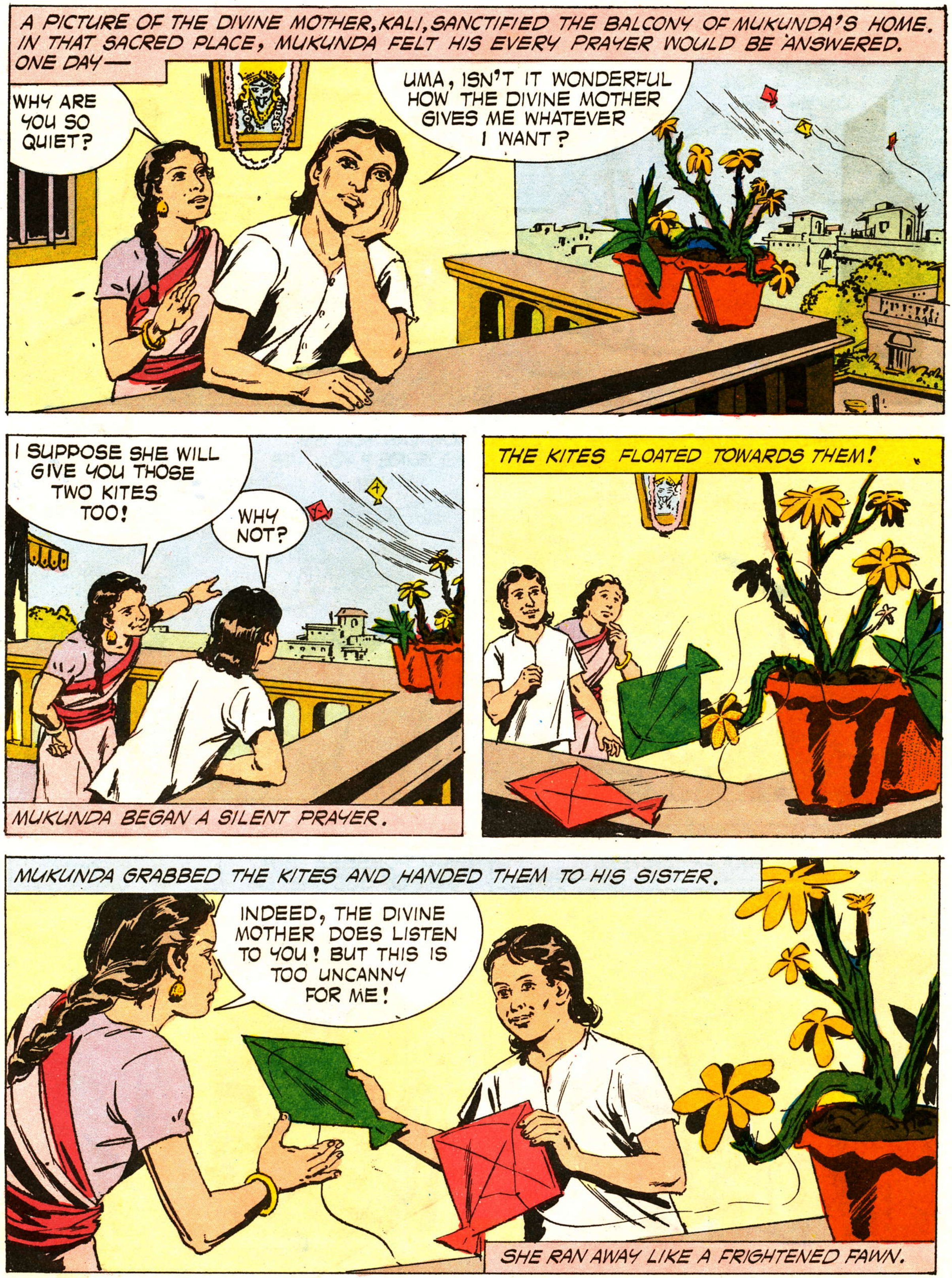

AFTER THESE EXPERIENCES, MUKUNDA COULD FEEL SPIRITUAL POWERS GROWING WITHIN HIM. ONE DAY, AS HE WAS STUDYING WITH HIS SISTER, UMA—
I HAVE A BOIL ON MY LEG.
I WILL APPLY SOME OINTMENT ON IT, UMA.

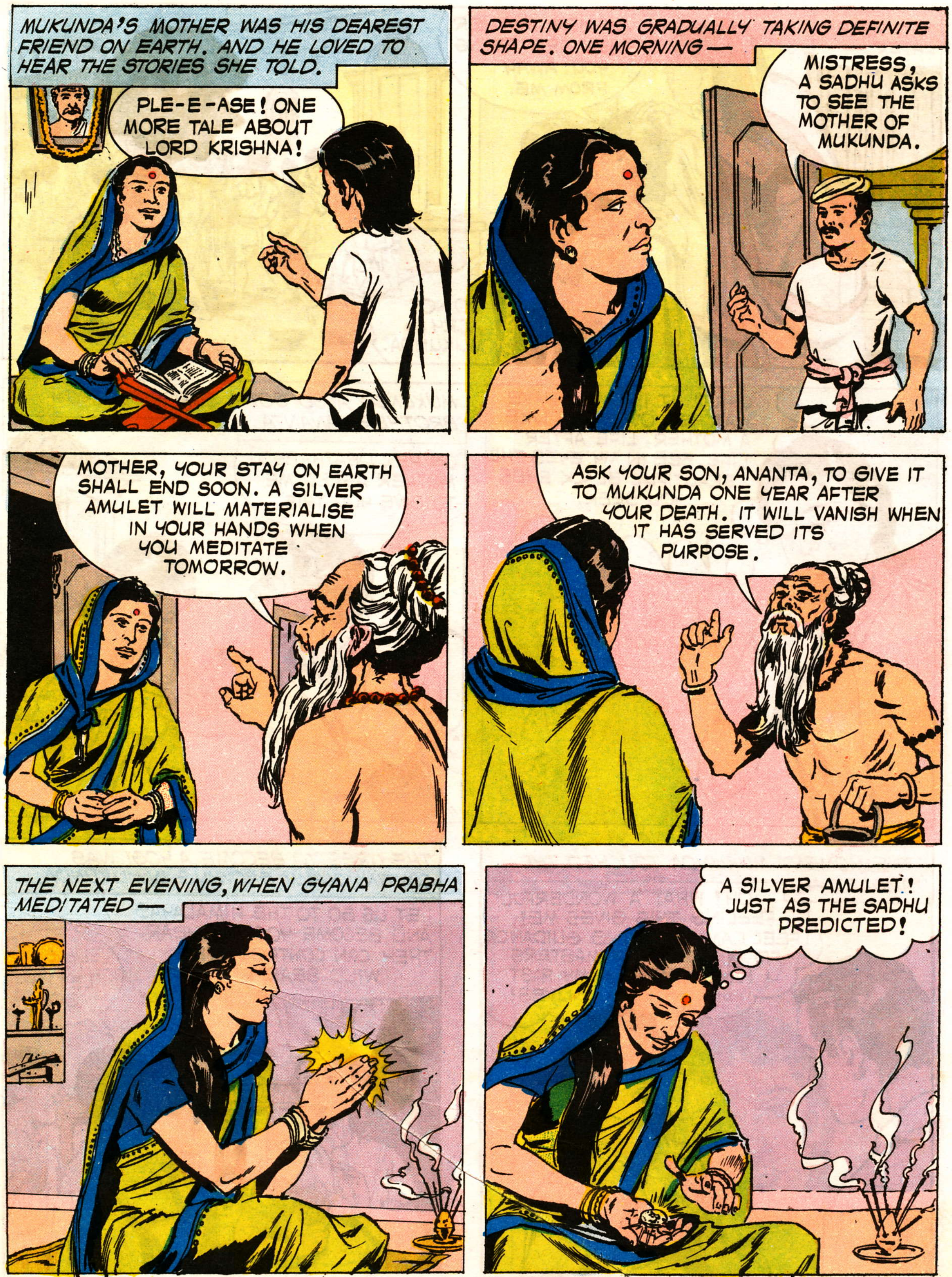

AFTER APPLYING SOME OINTMENT ON HIS SISTER'S LEG, MUKUNDA ALSO APPLIED SOME ON HIS ARM.
WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT?
BECAUSE TOMORROW I WILL HAVE A BOIL HERE!


HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? YOU ARE LYING!
YOU HAVE CALLED ME A LIAR! TOMORROW YOUR BOIL WILL BE DOUBLE IN SIZE!

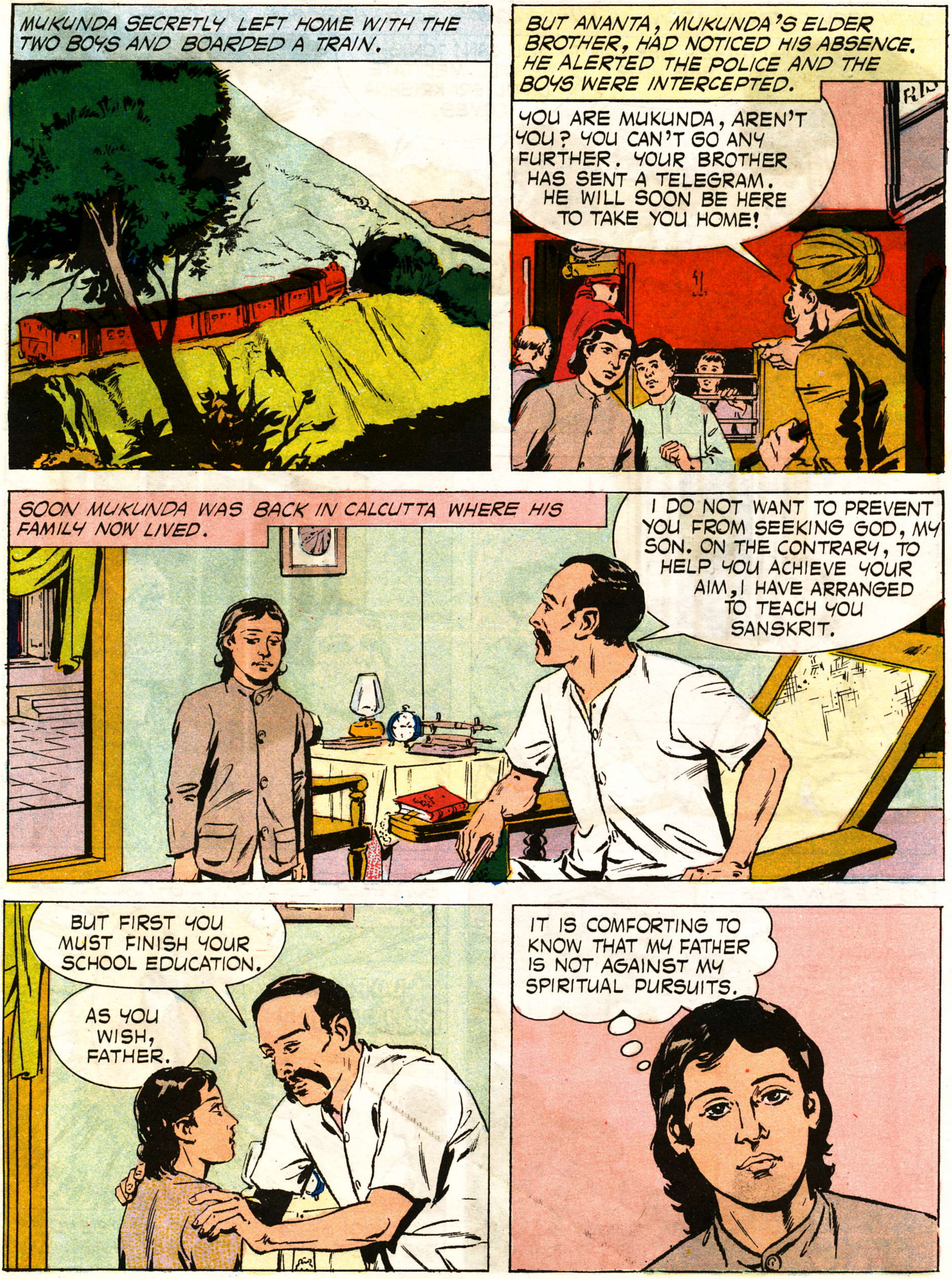

THE NEXT DAY, THINGS HAPPENED JUST AS MUKUNDA HAD PREDICTED.
MOTHER, MUKUNDA CURSED ME AND MY BOIL HAS GROWN BIGGER. IT HURTS.
YOU CALLED ME A LIAR, AND THAT HURT TOO!

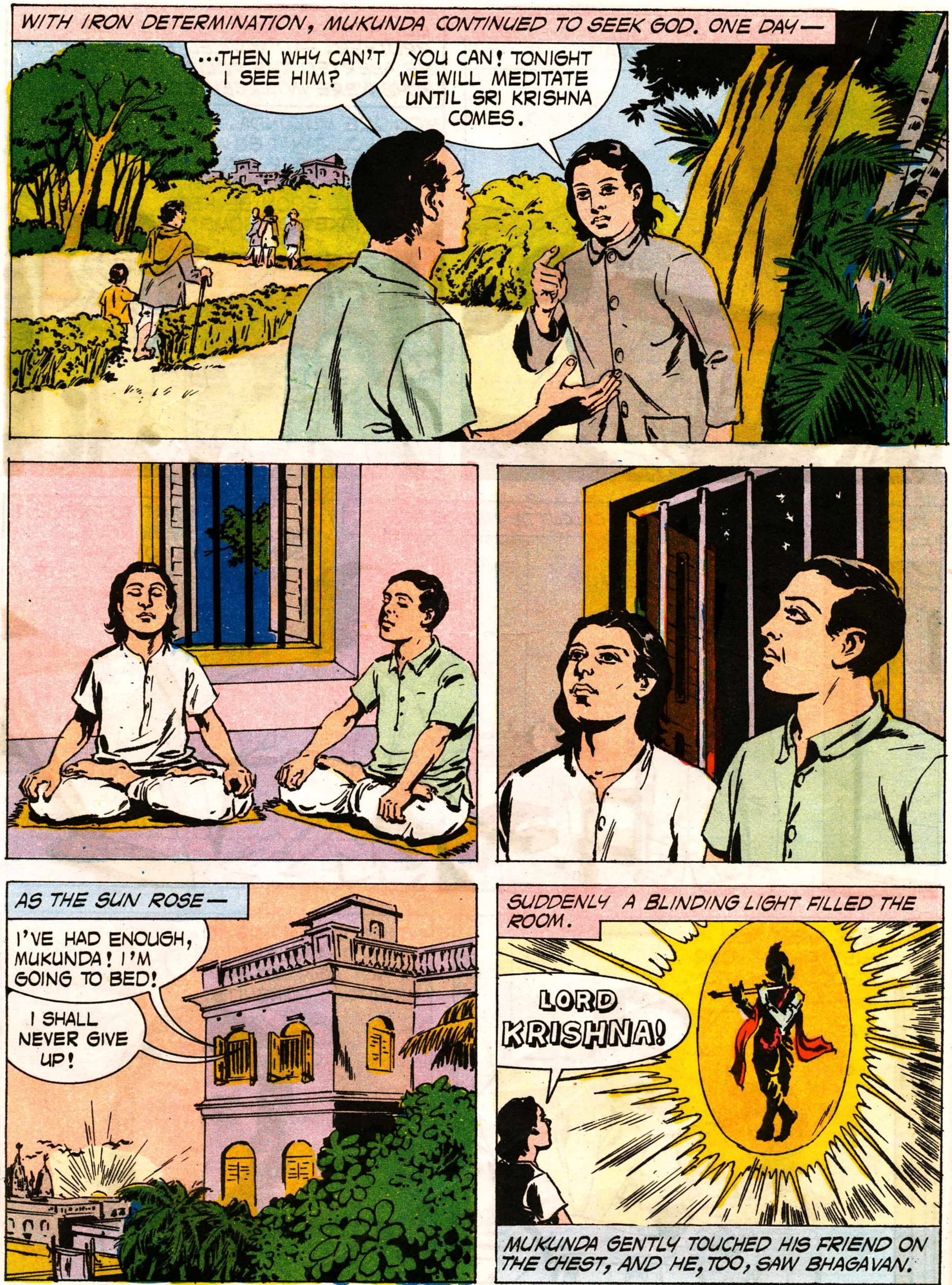

MUKUNDA, THE POWER YOU POSSESS IS A GIFT OF GOD. NEVER USE IT TO HARM OTHERS.
I WON'T, MOTHER.
MUKUNDA NEVER FORGOT HER COUNSEL.

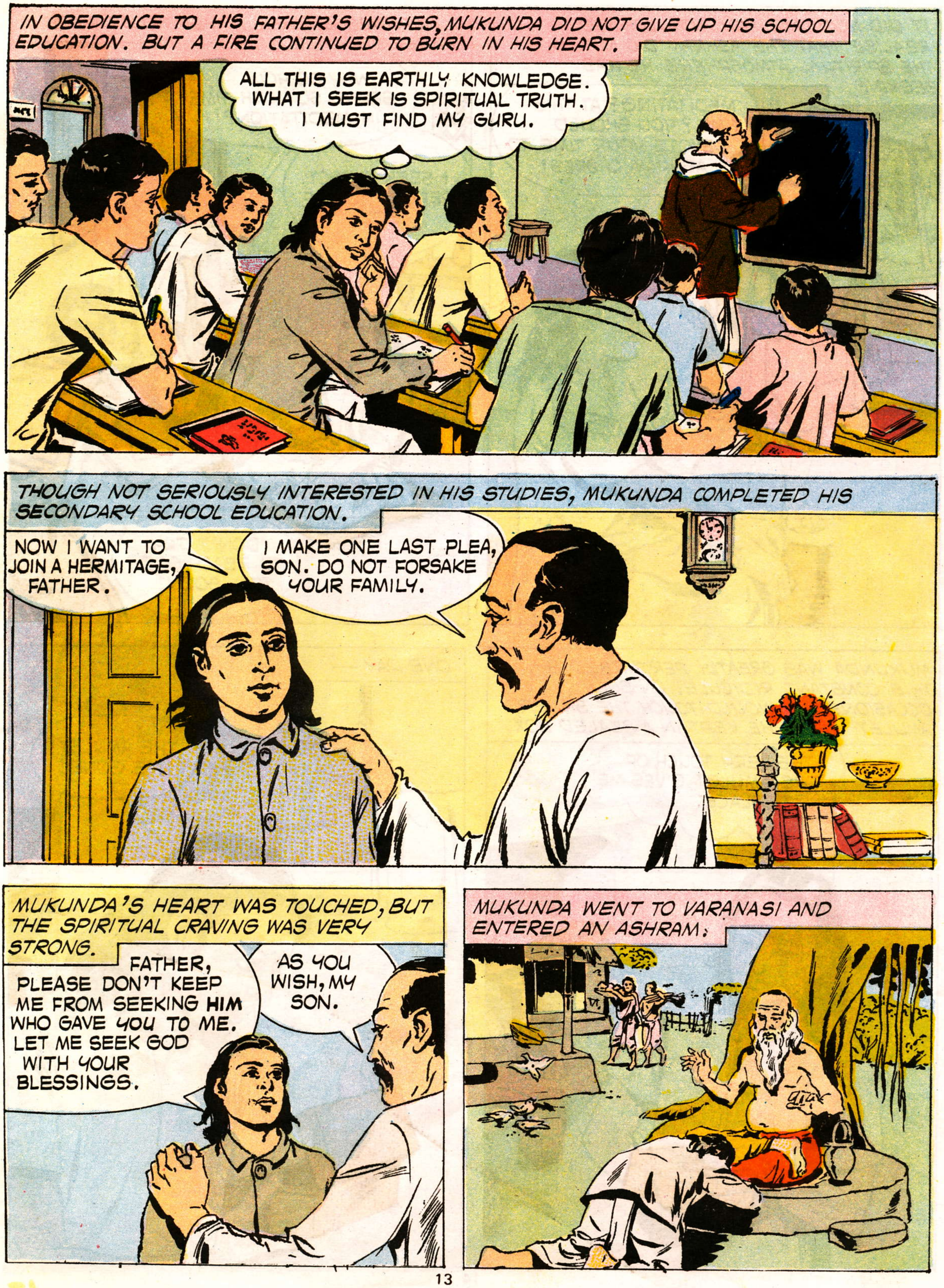

A PICTURE OF THE DIVINE MOTHER, KALI, SANCTIFIED THE BALCONY OF MUKUNDA'S HOME. IN THAT SACRED PLACE, MUKUNDA FELT HIS EVERY PRAYER WOULD BE ANSWERED. ONE DAY—
WHY ARE YOU SO QUIET?
UMA, ISN'T IT WONDERFUL HOW THE DIVINE MOTHER GIVES ME WHATEVER I WANT?
I SUPPOSE SHE WILL GIVE YOU THOSE TWO KITES TOO!
WHY NOT?
MUKUNDA BEGAN A SILENT PRAYER.
THE KITES FLOATED TOWARDS THEM!
MUKUNDA GRABBED THE KITES AND HANDED THEM TO HIS SISTER.
INDEED, THE DIVINE MOTHER DOES LISTEN TO YOU! BUT THIS IS TOO UNCANNY FOR ME!
SHE RAN AWAY LIKE A FRIGHTENED FAWN.


MUKUNDA'S MOTHER WAS HIS DEAREST FRIEND ON EARTH. AND HE LOVED TO HEAR THE STORIES SHE TOLD.
PLE-E-ASE! ONE MORE TALE ABOUT LORD KRISHNA!
DESTINY WAS GRADUALLY TAKING DEFINITE SHAPE. ONE MORNING—
MISTRESS, A SADHU ASKS TO SEE THE MOTHER OF MUKUNDA.
MOTHER, YOUR STAY ON EARTH SHALL END SOON. A SILVER AMULET WILL MATERIALISE IN YOUR HANDS WHEN YOU MEDITATE TOMORROW.
ASK YOUR SON, ANANTA, TO GIVE IT TO MUKUNDA ONE YEAR AFTER YOUR DEATH. IT WILL VANISH WHEN IT HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE.
THE NEXT EVENING, WHEN GYANA PRABHA MEDITATED—
A SILVER AMULET! JUST AS THE SADHU PREDICTED!


TWO YEARS LATER—
MOTHER, MOTHER, THEY ARE TAKING YOU AWAY FROM ME.
DO NOT CRY, MUKUNDA.
CHILD, IT IS I WHO HAVE WATCHED OVER YOU LIKE A MOTHER, LIFE AFTER LIFE. SEE IN MY EYES THE BEAUTIFUL BLACK EYES YOU SEEK.
IT IS THE DIVINE MOTHER!
MUKUNDA ALSO GOT A SURPRISE FROM HIS BROTHER, ANANTA.
ON HER DEATH-BED, MOTHER ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU THIS.
THE MOMENT MUKUNDA TOUCHED THE AMULET—
OH! WHAT A WONDERFUL FEELING THIS GIVES ME! I FEEL I AM RECEIVING GUIDANCE FROM THE GREAT MASTERS I HAVE KNOWN IN MY PAST LIVES!
THE URGE TO BECOME A YOGI WAS CONTINUOUSLY GROWING IN MUKUNDA.
LET US GO TO THE HIMALAYAS AND BECOME YOGIS. I HEAR THEY CAN CONTROL EVEN WILD BEASTS!
YES, LET'S GO!

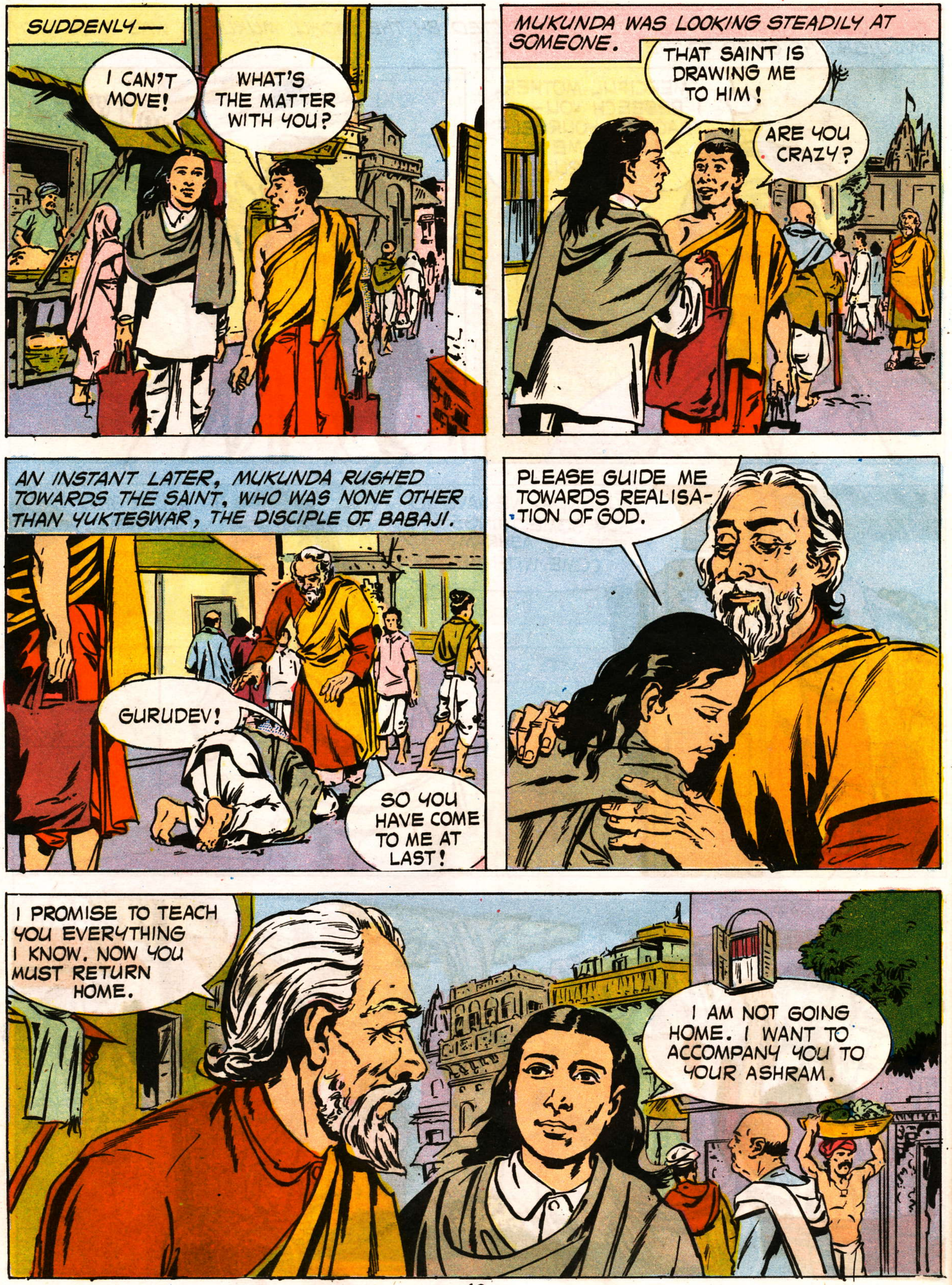

MUKUNDA SECRETLY LEFT HOME WITH THE TWO BOYS AND BOARDED A TRAIN.
BUT ANANTA, MUKUNDA'S ELDER BROTHER, HAD NOTICED HIS ABSENCE. HE ALERTED THE POLICE AND THE BOYS WERE INTERCEPTED.
YOU ARE MUKUNDA, AREN'T YOU? YOU CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER. YOUR BROTHER HAS SENT A TELEGRAM. HE WILL SOON BE HERE TO TAKE YOU HOME!
SOON MUKUNDA WAS BACK IN CALCUTTA WHERE HIS FAMILY NOW LIVED.
I DO NOT WANT TO PREVENT YOU FROM SEEKING GOD, MY SON. ON THE CONTRARY, TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR AIM, I HAVE ARRANGED TO TEACH YOU SANSKRIT.
BUT FIRST YOU MUST FINISH YOUR SCHOOL EDUCATION.
AS YOU WISH, FATHER.
IT IS COMFORTING TO KNOW THAT MY FATHER IS NOT AGAINST MY SPIRITUAL PURSUITS.

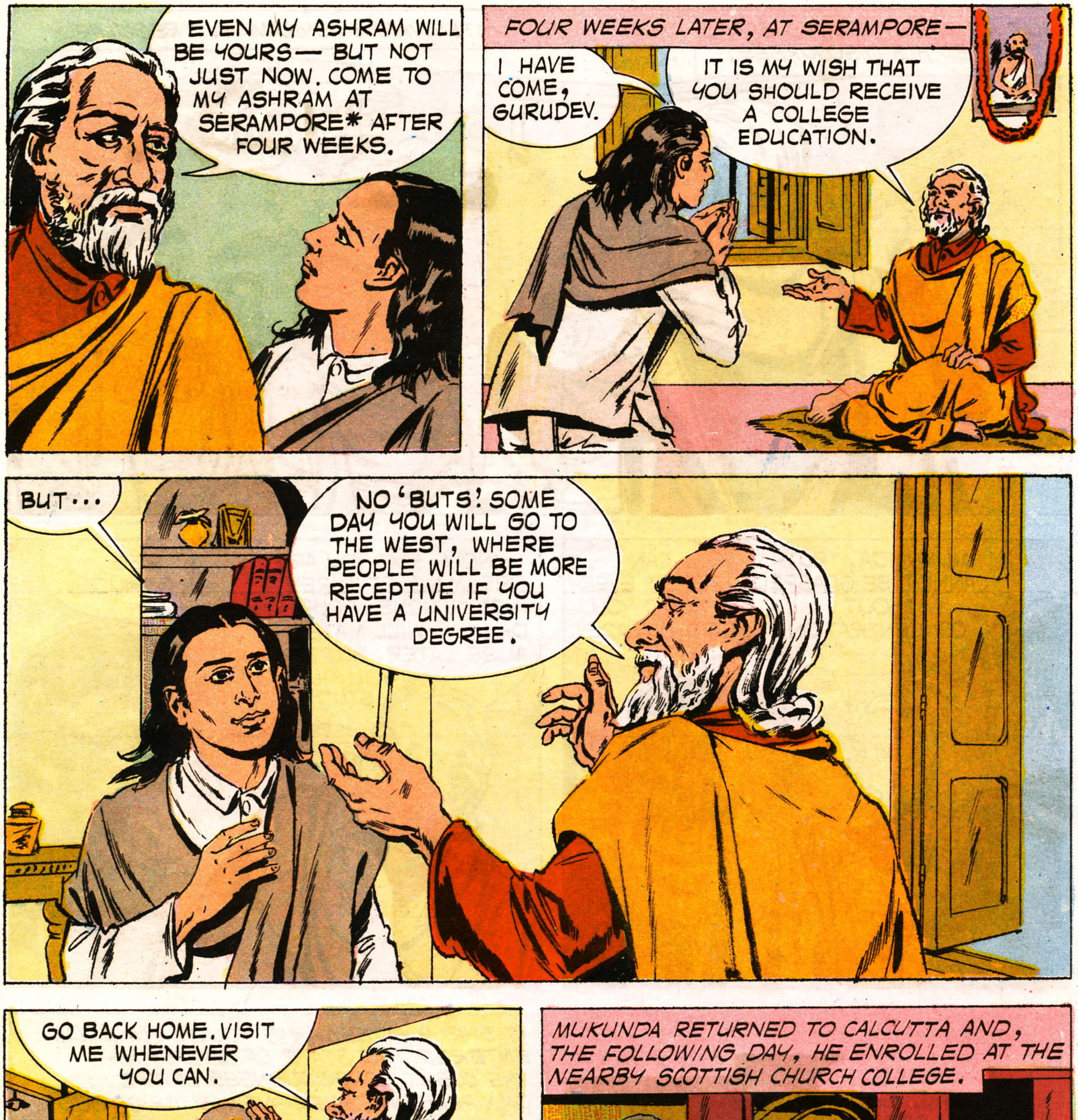

WITH IRON DETERMINATION, MUKUNDA CONTINUED TO SEEK GOD. ONE DAY—
...THEN WHY CAN'T I SEE HIM?
YOU CAN! TONIGHT WE WILL MEDITATE UNTIL SRI KRISHNA COMES.
AS THE SUN ROSE—
I'VE HAD ENOUGH, MUKUNDA! I'M GOING TO BED!
I SHALL NEVER GIVE UP!
SUDDENLY A BLINDING LIGHT FILLED THE ROOM.
LORD KRISHNA!
MUKUNDA GENTLY TOUCHED HIS FRIEND ON THE CHEST, AND HE, TOO, SAW BHAGAVAN.


IN OBEDIENCE TO HIS FATHER'S WISHES, MUKUNDA DID NOT GIVE UP HIS SCHOOL EDUCATION. BUT A FIRE CONTINUED TO BURN IN HIS HEART.
ALL THIS IS EARTHLY KNOWLEDGE. WHAT I SEEK IS SPIRITUAL TRUTH. I MUST FIND MY GURU.
THOUGH NOT SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN HIS STUDIES, MUKUNDA COMPLETED HIS SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.
NOW I WANT TO JOIN A HERMITAGE, FATHER.
I MAKE ONE LAST PLEA, SON. DO NOT FORSAKE YOUR FAMILY.
MUKUNDA'S HEART WAS TOUCHED, BUT THE SPIRITUAL CRAVING WAS VERY STRONG.
FATHER, PLEASE DON'T KEEP ME FROM SEEKING HIM WHO GAVE YOU TO ME. LET ME SEEK GOD WITH YOUR BLESSINGS.
AS YOU WISH, MY SON.
MUKUNDA WENT TO VARANASI AND ENTERED AN ASHRAM.


IT DID NOT TAKE MUKUNDA LONG TO REALISE THAT THE ASHRAM DID NOT HAVE THE SPIRITUAL ATMOSPHERE HE WAS SEEKING.
MEDITATING? AT THIS TIME? YOU SHOULD DEVOTE YOUR TIME TO ASHRAM CHORES!
MUKUNDA'S EFFORTS AT MEDITATION WERE REPEATEDLY BELITTLED.
WHY DO YOU SPEND SO MUCH TIME IN MEDITATION?
I SEEK DIRECT PERCEPTION OF GOD.
DON'T TRY TO REACH GOD TOO SOON!
MUKUNDA WAS GREATLY PERTURBED BY THIS CONSTANT RIDICULE. ON SUCH OCCASIONS, HE WOULD TOUCH THE SILVER AMULET WHICH HE KEPT IN A SEALED BOX.
THE VERY TOUCH OF THIS AMULET GIVES ME SOLACE.
ONE DAY —
THE AMULET! IT'S GONE!

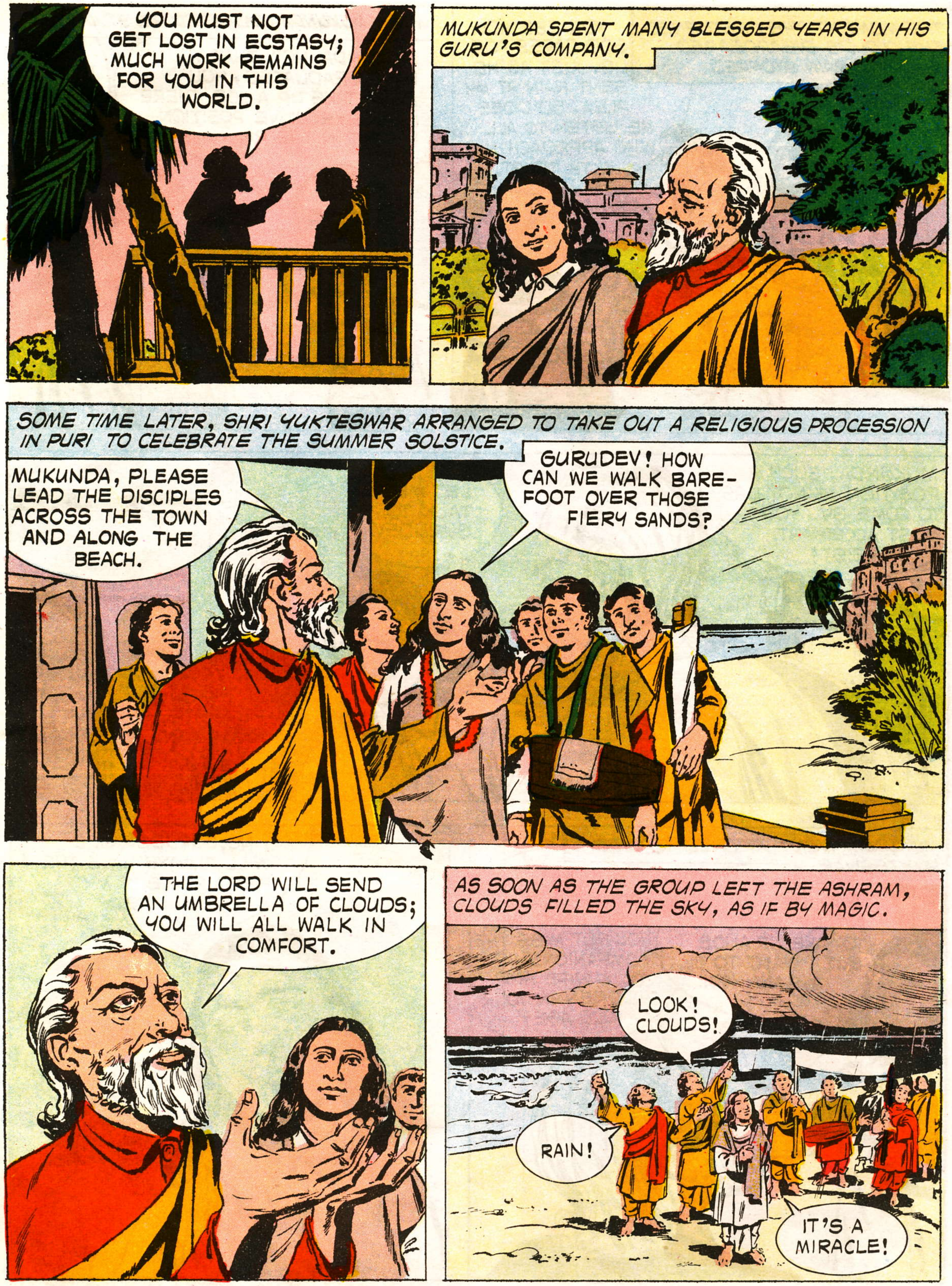

THE AMULET HAD DISAPPEARED AS PREDICTED BY THE SADHU. MUKUNDA WAS TORN WITH ANGUISH. HE CRIED TO THE DIVINE MOTHER.
MERCIFUL MOTHER, I BESEECH YOU— TEACH ME YOURSELF OR SEND ME A GURU.
YOU WILL MEET YOUR GURU TODAY.
MUKUNDA, WE HAVE TO BUY SOME THINGS FOR THE ASHRAM. COME WITH ME.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL COME.
AT THE BAZAAR—


SUDDENLY—
I CAN'T MOVE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
MUKUNDA WAS LOOKING STEADILY AT SOMEONE.
THAT SAINT IS DRAWING ME TO HIM!
ARE YOU CRAZY?
AN INSTANT LATER, MUKUNDA RUSHED TOWARDS THE SAINT, WHO WAS NONE OTHER THAN YUKTESWAR, THE DISCIPLE OF BABAJI.
GURUDEV!
SO YOU HAVE COME TO ME AT LAST!
PLEASE GUIDE ME TOWARDS REALISATION OF GOD.
I PROMISE TO TEACH YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW. NOW YOU MUST RETURN HOME.
I AM NOT GOING HOME. I WANT TO ACCOMPANY YOU TO YOUR ASHRAM.



* NEAR CALCUTTA


BUT HE SPENT ALL HIS SPARE TIME AT SHRI YUKTESWAR'S ASHRAM AND REGULARLY ATTENDED HIS DISCOURSES.
MUKUNDA, TRUTH CANNOT BE GRASPED WITHOUT CONCENTRATION.
I CAN REPEAT EVERY WORD YOU SAID, GURUDEV.
I KNOW, BUT YOU ARE DREAMING OF THREE INSTITUTIONS. YOUR DREAMS WILL MATERIALISE LATER, BUT NOW YOU MUST STUDY.
YES, GURUDEV.
ONE MORNING, MUKUNDA WAS SUMMONED BY HIS GURU.
YOUR HEART'S DESIRE SHALL SOON BE FULFILLED!
AT SHRI YUKTESWAR'S TOUCH, MUKUNDA ENTERED THE STATE OF SAMADHI — THE COSMIC CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE OMNIPRESENT, EVER-NEW BLISS OF GOD.



YOU MUST NOT GET LOST IN ECSTASY; MUCH WORK REMAINS FOR YOU IN THIS WORLD.
MUKUNDA SPENT MANY BLESSED YEARS IN HIS GURU'S COMPANY.
SOME TIME LATER, SHRI YUKTESWAR ARRANGED TO TAKE OUT A RELIGIOUS PROCESSION IN PURI TO CELEBRATE THE SUMMER SOLSTICE.
MUKUNDA, PLEASE LEAD THE DISCIPLES ACROSS THE TOWN AND ALONG THE BEACH.
GURUDEV! HOW CAN WE WALK BARE-FOOT OVER THOSE FIERY SANDS?
THE LORD WILL SEND AN UMBRELLA OF CLOUDS; YOU WILL ALL WALK IN COMFORT.
AS SOON AS THE GROUP LEFT THE ASHRAM, CLOUDS FILLED THE SKY, AS IF BY MAGIC.
LOOK! CLOUDS!
RAIN!
IT'S A MIRACLE!


THE MOMENT THEY RETURNED, THE CLOUDS DISAPPEARED AND THE RAIN STOPPED.
YOU SEE HOW GOD CARES FOR US. JUST AS HE SENT RAIN AT MY PLEA, SO DOES HE LISTEN TO ALL WHO APPROACH HIM WITH TRUST.
WHEN MUKUNDA COMPLETED HIS STUDIES—
MUKUNDA, NOW THAT YOU HAVE GRADUATED, YOU MUST TAKE UP A JOB. THERE IS AN EXECUTIVE POSITION VACANT IN THE RAILWAYS.
BUT, FATHER, I HAVE OTHER PLANS!
MUKUNDA, SUCH A POSITION IS NOT EASY TO COME BY. YOU MUST ACCEPT IT. I INSIST!
LET ME TALK TO GURUDEV.
MUKUNDA WENT AT ONCE TO SHRI YUKTESWAR.
GURUDEV, MY FATHER WANTS ME TO TAKE UP A JOB BUT I WANT TO BE A SANNYASI.
MUKUNDA, A MONK'S LIFE IS VERY HARD. WILL YOU NOT MISS THE COMPANIONSHIP OF A WIFE AND CHILDREN IN YOUR OLD AGE?
NO, GURUDEV. GOD WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE FIRST PLACE IN MY LIFE.



* BLISS (ANAND) THROUGH DIVINE UNION (YOGA)



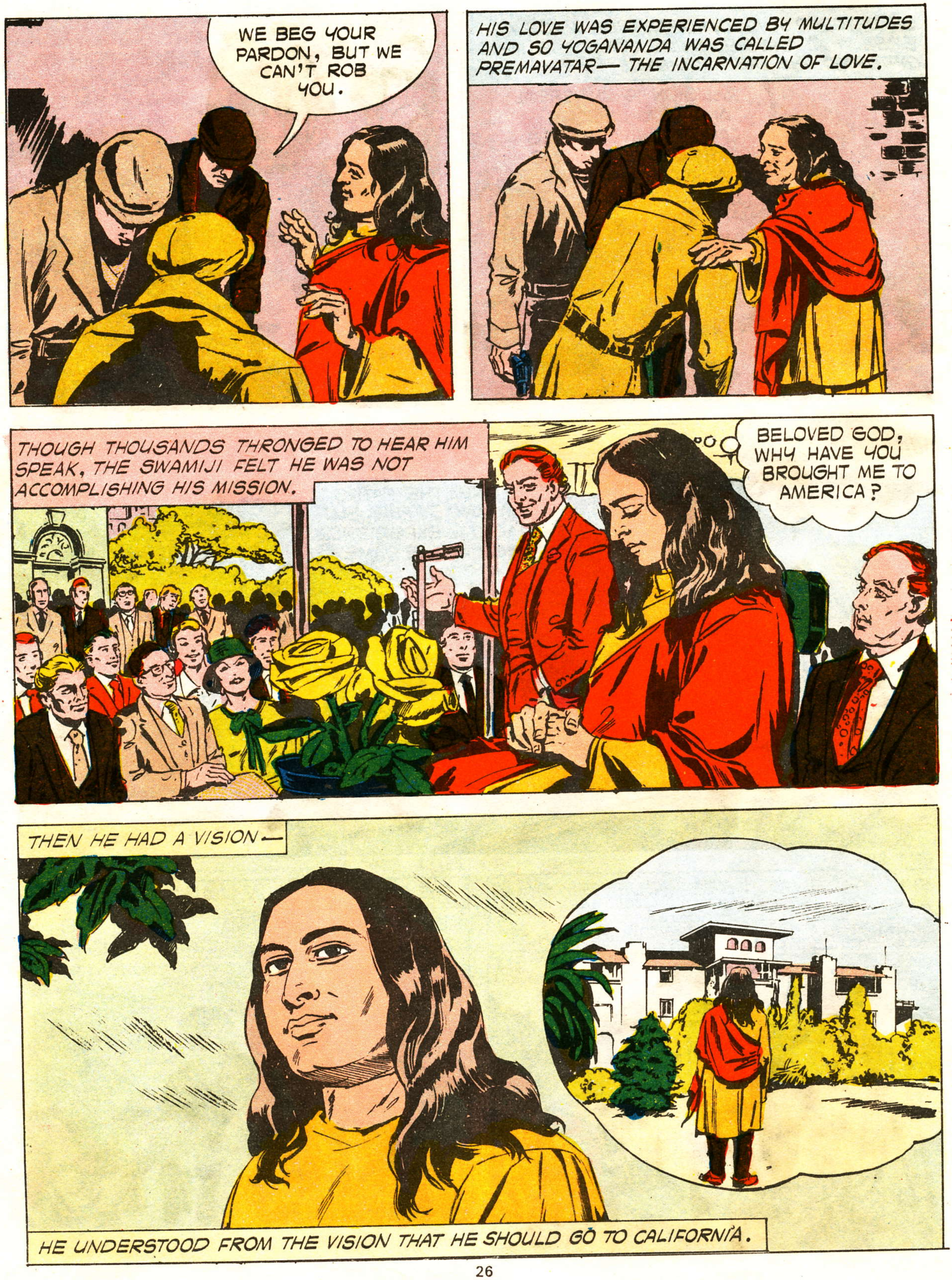
TWO YEARS LATER, RABINDRANATH TAGORE INVITED HIM TO SHANTINIKETAN.
A CHILD IS IN HIS NATURAL SETTING WHEN AMIDST FLOWERS AND BIRDS.
I AM VERY HAPPY TO NOTE THAT OUR VIEWS ARE SO SIMILAR.
ONE DAY, WHILE MEDITATING IN RANCHI IN THE SECLUSION OF A STORE-ROOM, YOGANANDA HAD A VISION.
AMERICA! SURELY THESE PEOPLE ARE AMERICANS!
AMERICA! I SEE MANY GREAT SOULS THERE WAITING TO BE SPIRITUALLY AWAKENED.
THE LORD IS CALLING ME TO AMERICA.
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, YOGANANDA RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO VISIT AMERICA. HE CONSULTED SHRI YUKTESWAR.
FIRST I HAD A VISION AND NOW I RECEIVE AN INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERALS AT BOSTON!
ALL DOORS ARE OPEN TO YOU NOW!



* A TECHNIQUE OF MEDITATION WHEREBY THE HIGHEST STATE OF DIVINE REALISATION MAY BE ATTAINED.


BABAJI!
GOD HAS HEARD YOUR PRAYER. GO TO AMERICA. YOU ARE THE ONE I HAVE CHOSEN TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF KRIYA YOGA.
KRIYA YOGA, THE SCIENTIFIC TEACHING OF GOD-REALISATION, WILL ULTIMATELY SPREAD TO ALL LANDS.
BABAJI GAVE YOGANANDA SOME PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS AND UTTERED A FEW SACRED PROPHECIES.
IN AUGUST 1920, SWAMI YOGANANDA SAILED FOR AMERICA ON THE "CITY OF SPARTA".
CITY OF SPARTA
ON THE SHIP, HE PRAYED.
WHAT LIES AHEAD? LORD, PLEASE BE MY SOLE INSPIRATION.
IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1920, THE SHIP DOCKED NEAR BOSTON. MOST AMERICANS HAD NEVER SEEN A SWAMI BEFORE.
ARE YOU A FORTUNE-TELLER?
NO, I TELL PEOPLE HOW TO MEND THEIR FORTUNES!


ON OCTOBER 6, 1920, YOGANANDA MADE A SPEECH AT THE RELIGIOUS CONGRESS WHICH CAPTIVATED THE VAST AUDIENCE.
RELIGION IS UNIVERSAL AND IT IS ONE. WE CANNOT UNIVERSALISE PARTICULAR CUSTOMS AND CONVENTIONS...
...BUT THE COMMON ELEMENTS IN RELIGION CAN BE UNIVERSALISED.
HIS VIEWS ON "THE SCIENCE OF RELIGION" WERE SO WELL RECEIVED THAT, FOR FOUR YEARS, HE LECTURED IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES.
GOD IS ONE. THE PATHS TO HIM MAY DIFFER, BUT THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCE OF GOD IS THE SAME FOR ALL.
EVEN THE SINFUL WERE INFLUENCED BY HIS PERSONALITY. ONE DAY—
RAISE YOUR HANDS!
WHAT DO YOU WANT? MONEY? TAKE WHAT I HAVE.
THE SWAMI WENT INTO A STATE OF TRANCE.
HE DOES NOT HATE US EVEN WHEN WE ARE ROBBING HIM!
I, TOO, CAN FEEL HIS LOVE! HE IS GREAT!
SWAMIJI'S LOVE HAD CHANGED THEIR HEARTS.


WE BEG YOUR PARDON, BUT WE CAN'T ROB YOU.
HIS LOVE WAS EXPERIENCED BY MULTITUDES AND SO YOGANANDA WAS CALLED PREMAVATAR— THE INCARNATION OF LOVE.
THOUGH THOUSANDS THRONGED TO HEAR HIM SPEAK, THE SWAMIJI FELT HE WAS NOT ACCOMPLISHING HIS MISSION.
BELOVED GOD, WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME TO AMERICA?
THEN HE HAD A VISION—
HE UNDERSTOOD FROM THE VISION THAT HE SHOULD GO TO CALIFORNIA.


IN 1925, YOGANANDA ARRIVED IN LOS ANGELES AND BEGAN LECTURING THERE. ONE DAY, WHILE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO ESTABLISH HIS HEADQUARTERS, HE FELT AN INNER DIRECTION. THE PARTY DROVE UP TO THE TOP OF MOUNT WASHINGTON.
BUT, GURUJI, IT SAYS "PRIVATE PROPERTY".
IT IS OURS! GOD SHOWED IT TO ME IN A VISION.
PRIVATE PROPERTY
THROUGH GOD'S GRACE, YOGANANDA FOUND THAT THE PROPERTY WAS FOR SALE. BUT HE HAD NO MONEY TO PAY FOR IT. THEN UNEXPECTEDLY—
SWAMIJI, ARE YOU NOT GOING TO ESTABLISH A MATH* IN LOS ANGELES?
WE HAVE FOUND THE PERFECT BUILDING, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE THE FUNDS TO BUY IT.
I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR HEALING MY HUSBAND. WILL YOU ACCEPT THIS DONATION TO HELP TOWARDS THE PURCHASE?
THE ANSWER TO MY PRAYERS! GOD BLESS YOU!
BUT EVEN ON THE DAY BEFORE THE PAYMENT WAS DUE, HE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY.
LORD, IS THIS FAIR? IT WAS YOU WHO SENT ME TO THE WEST!
ALL RIGHT! YOU SHALL RECEIVE HELP!
THE SWAMIJI WENT TOWARDS HIS ROOM. SUDDENLY, A WINDOW BURST OPEN AND A GUST OF WIND HIT HIS FACE. HE TURNED AND HIS EYES FELL UPON THE TELEPHONE.
AH! I'VE SUDDENLY REMEMBERED A STUDENT WHO MIGHT HELP ME!

*MONASTERY


YES, SWAMIJI, I HAVE UNEXPECTEDLY RECEIVED SOME MONEY. WILL YOU ACCEPT IT?
I WILL, INDEED! PLEASE BE AT THE REAL ESTATE AGENT'S OFFICE AT NOON TOMORROW OR WE MAY LOSE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET THAT PROPERTY.
THE NEXT DAY, ANOTHER MAN WAS THERE, TOO, WAITING TO BUY THE PROPERTY.
I HAVE THE MONEY.
BUT I AM OFFERING YOU MORE MONEY.
I AM SORRY. SWAMI YOGANANDA MADE THE FIRST BID.
SWAMI YOGANANDA ESTABLISHED HIS AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS ON MOUNT WASHINGTON AND HE CALLED HIS ORGANISATION "SELF-REALISATION FELLOWSHIP". AGAIN HE BEGAN HIS LECTURES.
LET US CALL MEN OF ALL RACES—THE BROWN, YELLOW, RED, BLACK AND WHITE—BY ONE NAME: BROTHERS, UNDER THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD.
YOGANANDA'S GURU'S PROPHECY HAD COME TRUE. INTEREST IN HIS TEACHING WAS GROWING.
I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED THAT AT A PUBLIC MEETING IN AMERICA THE AUDIENCE COULD SING THE NAME OF THE LORD FOR THREE HOURS!
MANY WERE BLESSED AND MIRACULOUSLY HEALED OF CHRONIC DISEASES BY THE SWAMIJI. ONCE IN SALT LAKE CITY—
WHAT IS YOUR NAME? WHY ARE YOU SO WEAK?
I AM FAYE WRIGHT. FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS I HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FROM A BLOOD DISEASE.


DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD CAN HEAL YOU?
YES, WITHOUT A DOUBT.
FROM THIS MOMENT, YOU ARE HEALED.
A FEW WEEKS LATER, CURED OF HER DREADFUL DISEASE, FAYE WRIGHT ENTERED THE GURU'S ASHRAM AT LOS ANGELES. SHE WAS LATER KNOWN AS SHRI DAYA MATA, SANGHA MATA OF YOGODA SATSANGA SOCIETY AND SELF-REALISATION FELLOWSHIP.
YOGANANDA'S AIM WAS TO TEACH SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUES FOR ATTAINING EXPERIENCE OF GOD. FROM 1920 TO 1930, THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS LEARNT YOGA FROM HIM.
ONE DAY IN 1935, WHILE IN MEDITATION, SHRI YOGANANDA HEARD THE VOICE OF SHRI YUKTESWAR.
YOGANANDA, COME. I SHALL SOON LEAVE MY BODY.
YOGANANDA HASTENED TO INDIA TO MEET HIS GURU.
GURUDEV!
MY WORK IS OVER. I LEAVE ALL MY ASHRAMS IN YOUR HANDS. I BESTOW ON YOU THE HIGHEST SPIRITUAL TITLE OF "PARAMAHANSA".



* YOGANANDA'S FIRST SPIRITUAL SUCCESSOR


ON 7TH MARCH 1952, PARAMAHANSA YOGANANDA WAS INVITED TO SPEAK AT A BANQUET TO HONOUR SHRI B.R. SEN, THE FIRST INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO AMERICA. EARLIER THAT DAY—
DAYA MATA, IN A FEW HOURS I WILL BE GONE FROM THE EARTH.
GURUJI, HOW SHALL WE CARRY ON WITHOUT YOU?
ONLY LOVE CAN TAKE MY PLACE.
AT THE BANQUET, AS HE HAD OFTEN PREDICTED, YOGANANDA'S LAST WORDS WERE OF GOD AND INDIA.
...WHERE GANGA... WOODS...HIMALAYAN CAVES... AND MEN DREAM GOD... I AM HALLOWED; MY BODY TOUCHED THAT SOD.
AFTER CONCLUDING HIS SPEECH, A BEATIFIC SMILE LIT HIS FACE AND HE ENTERED MAHASAMADHI — A GREAT YOGI'S FINAL CONSCIOUS EXIT FROM THE BODY AT DEATH.
"MY BODY SHALL PASS, BUT MY WORK SHALL GO ON."
OM SHANTI
OM SHANTI

AMAR CHITRA KATHA

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- God is love; His plan for creation can be rooted only in love. Does not that simple thought, rather than erudite reasonings, offer solace to the human heart? Every saint who has penetrated to the core of Reality has testified that a divine universal plan exists and that it is beautiful and full of joy.

- There is so much to know! So much to see within! The answer to every problem comes to you straight from the Infinite. The Truths that I perceive within by meditation reveal the truth that science is discovering by other methods.

- The happiness that God gives is greater than anything the world can offer. Divine joy is enduring, eternal. When everything else melts away, that joy remains.

- When you know God, there is no more sorrow. All those you loved and lost in death are with you again in the Eternal Life. You don't know whom to consider your "own" any more, because everyone is yours.

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